

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2, 4-6, 9-11, and 19-21 are presented for further examination. Claims 17, and 22-24 have been canceled. Claims 9, 19 and 20 have been amended.

In the Office Action mailed January 25, 2005, the Examiner objected to claim 9, requesting that “n number of the transmitters” in line 13 be amended to read “n number of transmitters.” Claim 20 was objected to because of informalities, and the Examiner suggested that “the λ -tag” in line 4 of the claim should be “a λ -tag.” Applicants have amended claims 9 and 20 to adopt the suggestions advanced by the Examiner.

Claims 22 and 24 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,625,478 (“Doerr et al.”). Claim 17 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Doerr et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,430,201 (“Azizoglu et al.”). Claim 23 was rejected as obvious over Doerr et al. in view of previously-cited Chawki et al. Claims 1-2, 4-6, and 9-11 were indicated as allowed. Claims 19-21 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim but were found to be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Applicants have amended claim 19 to include the limitations of independent claim 17. Claim 18 was previously canceled. Thus, claim 19 is now rewritten into independent form and is in condition for allowance, as are claims 20 and 21, both of which now depend from claim 19.

Thus, all claims remaining in this application are now in condition for allowance. In the event the Examiner finds minor informalities that can be resolved by telephone conference, the Examiner is urged to contact applicants’ undersigned representative by telephone at (206) 622-4900 in order to expeditiously resolve prosecution of this application. Consequently, early and favorable action allowing these claims and passing this case to issuance is respectfully solicited.

Application No. 09/751,351
Reply to Office Action dated January 25, 2005

The Director is authorized to charge any additional fees due by way of this Amendment, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-1090.

Respectfully submitted,
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